SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

# BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23RD, 1905.

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# ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

## PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL.

AT a meeting of the Council held, by kind permission of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, London, in their Board Room, on Wednesday, December 13th, 1905, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon,

*Present:*

Dr. H. W. LANGLEY BROWNE, Chairman of Council, in the Chair.
Mr. G. C. FRANKLIN, President.
Dr. WILLIAM COLLIER, Oxford, Past-President.
Sir VICTOR HORSLEY, F.R.S., Chairman of Representative Meetings.
Dr. H. RADCLIFFE CROCKER, Treasurer.

Dr. JOHN FORD ANDERSON, London.
Dr. MICHAEL BEVERLEY, Norwich.
Dr. T. R. BRADSHAW, Liverpool.
Dr. J. BRASSEY BRIERLEY, Old Trafford.
Dr. R. COCHRANE BUIST, Dundee.
Professor J. W. BYERS, M.D., Belfast.
Dr. W. A. CARLINE, Lincoln.
Mr. ANDREW CLARK, D.Sc., London.
Dr. JAMES CRAIG, Dublin.
Mr. E. J. DOMVILLE, Exeter.
Mr. GEORGE EASTES, M.B., London.
Dr. E. L. FOX, Plymouth.
Dr. JOHN H. GALTON, Upper Norwood.
Dr. JOSEPH J. GIUSANI, Cork.
Dr. BRUCE GOFF, Bothwell.
Dr. DAVID GOYDER, Bradford.
Dr. J. GROVES, Carisbrooke.
Dr. JAMES HAMILTON, Glasgow.
Dr. T. ARTHUR HELME, Manchester.
Mr. R. H. KINSEY, Bedford.
Dr. C. G. DRUMMOND MORIER (South Australian Branch), London.
Mr. EDMUND OWEN, London.
Mr. C. H. W. PARKINSON, Wimborne Minster.
Dr. EDWIN RAYNER, Stockport.
Mr. H. JONES ROBERTS, Penygroes.
Mr. H. BETHAM ROBINSON, M.S., London.
Dr. J. MAXWELL ROSS, Dumfries.
Dr. E. MARKHAM SKERRITT, Bristol.
Professor W. R. SMITH, M.D. (Malta and Mediterranean Branch), London.
Mr. W. D. SPANTON, Hanley.
Mr. C. R. STRATON, Salisbury.
Mr. JOHN LYNN THOMAS, C.B., Cardiff.
Mr. H. G. THOMASZ (Colombo, Ceylon Branch), London.
Dr. W. J. TYSON, Folkestone.
Mr. T. JENNER VERRALL, Brighton.
Dr. NORMAN WALKER, Edinburgh.
Dr. ARTHUR T. WEAR, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Lieutenant-Colonel E. M. WILSON, R.A.M.C., Farnborough

The minutes of the last meeting having been printed and circulated, and no objection received, were taken as read and signed as correct.

Read letters of apology for non-attendance from Dr. Edgar Barnes, Dr. G. W. Crowe, Professor Finlay, Dr. R. McKenzie Johnston, Dr. C. W. Marriott, Dr. James Murray, Professor Osler, F.R.S., Professor Saundby, and Fleet Surgeon Lloyd Thomas, R.N.

The CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL welcomed Lieut.-Colonel E. M. Wilson, C.B., C.M.G., Representative of the Army Medical Service, and Mr. H. Jones Roberts, Representative of the North Wales and Shropshire and Mid Wales Branches, *vice* Dr. W. Jones Morris, deceased.

Moved by Dr. MAXWELL ROSS, and

Resolved: That this Council regrets to learn of the death of Dr. Robert Somerville of Galashiels, and to place on record its high appreciation of the valuable services he rendered to the Association. Dr. Somerville represented the Border Counties Branch on the Council from 1893 to 1903, was a Past-President of that Branch, and took an active interest in the organization of the annual meeting of the Association when it met at Carlisle in 1896.

Moved by the PAST-PRESIDENT, seconded by Sir VICTOR HORSLEY, and

Resolved: That the Council of the British Medical Association regrets to learn of the death of Sir John Burdon-Sanderson, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., and desires to place on record its high appreciation of his valuable life-work in the advancement of medical science. Sir John Burdon-Sanderson for many years took an active interest in the work of the Scientific Grants Committee. He gave the address in physiology in 1873, when the Association met in London, and filled the office of President of the Section of Physiology in 1875 at Edinburgh.

Moved by Mr. LYNN THOMAS, and

Resolved: That this Council regrets to learn of the death of Colonel Pearson R. Cresswell, C.B., F.R.C.S., and to place on record its high appreciation of the work he has done on behalf of the Association. Colonel Cresswell was a member of the Council as far back as 1872, and at the time of his death was a Representative on the Council for the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch. He was elected a member of the Journal and Finance Committee when it was first formed in 1872, and filled the office of Vice-President of the Section of Surgery in 1875, when the Association met in Cardiff.

Read acknowledgement to the resolution of condolence passed at the last meeting in reference to the death of Dr. W. Jones Morris, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Moved by the CHAIRMAN of COUNCIL, seconded by the TREASURER, and

Resolved: That this Council desires to congratulate Sir James Barr, M.D., Sir Thomas Chavasse, M.D., and Sir Arthur Chance, P.R.C.S.I., on receiving the honour of Knighthood at the hands of His Majesty the King.

Resolved: That at the Toronto meeting the joint section, Anatomy and Physiology, be divided into two sections for Anatomy and Physiology respectively.

Resolved: That the Council approve of an address being given in State Medicine.

The Chairman of Council reported receipt of a resolution from the Local Executive of the Leicester Meeting, expressing appreciation of the assistance rendered by the General Secretary, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Premises and Library Committee be received.

Owing to important information which has reached the Chairman of Council since this meeting, publication of the recommendations of the Premises and Library Committee is deferred.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Irish Committee be received.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Hospitals Committee and of the Joint Hospitals Committee be received.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Colonial Committee be received.

Moved by Mr. EDMUND OWEN and

Resolved: That this Council regrets to learn that the members of the Malta Branch are dissatisfied with the assurance of the Colonial Secretary that no slur was intended or cast upon the members of the Maltese Lunacy Committee by the appointment of Major Lawson to the Committee, and that the Chairman of the Colonial Committee be requested again to approach the Colonial Secretary in the hope of obtaining a reconsideration of the case.

Resolved: That the Ceylon Branch be informed that since it first forwarded the "Ordinance to Provide for the Registration of Medical Practitioners in Ceylon," this Council has received from the Colonial Office a later print of the Ordinance, embodying the amendments desired by the Council.

Resolved: That the Council, having considered Clause 13 as proposed to be introduced into the Medical Registration Act, 1905, for the Bermudas or Somers Islands, is of opinion that any medical practitioner duly registered within the United Kingdom ought to be able to enter any British Colony or Dependency, and be entitled to practise on producing evidence of his registration in the United Kingdom. The Council would further point out that it has already urged His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies as to the expediency of registering in any Colony or Dependency only those medical qualifications which are registrable in the United Kingdom.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Poor Law Special Committee be received.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Medico-Political Committee be received.

Moved by Dr. BUIST, and

Resolved: That the name of Dr. T. Arthur Helme be added to the Medico-Political Committee.

Resolved: That in the constituency of each member of Parliament who has conspicuously supported or opposed the policy of the Association in matters affecting the profession, the Medical Secretary be instructed to inform the medical profession of the action taken by the Member of Parliament.

Moved by Dr. BUIST, seconded by Sir VICTOR HORSLEY, and

Resolved: That a Central Emergency Fund for dealing with disputes in cases of contract practice, and otherwise, under the management of the Medico-Political Committee, be created by voluntary subscription.

Moved by Dr. BUIST, seconded by Mr. STRATON, and

Resolved: That in view of the fact that the rules framed by the Central Midwives Board, under Section 3 of the Midwives Act, 1902, remain in force only until August 12th, 1906, steps be taken to obtain the views of the Divisions in England with regard to the same in order that any desired alterations or additions may be submitted to the Central Midwives Board and the General Medical Council.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Public Health Committee be received.

Resolved: That the following resolution passed in the State Medicine Section regarding the utility of hospital isolation be referred to the Public Health Committee:

That as doubt has arisen as to the value of hospital isolation in the prevention of scarlet fever, it is desirable that a full inquiry into the subject should be made; and that the Local Government Board be respectfully requested to institute such inquiry.

# Proceedings of Standing Committees.

## MEDICO-POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Medico-Political Committee was held at the office of the Association, on Wednesday, November 22nd, 1905, when there were present: Dr. R. C. BUIST, in the chair. Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S. (Chairman of Representative Meetings), Mr. H. W. Armit, Dr. J. H. Hunter, Dr. H. A. Latimer, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, Dr. L. S. McManus, Dr. H. F. Oldham, Mr. C. H. Watts Parkinson, Dr. Cecil E. Shaw, Mr. C. R. Straton.

### VACANCY ON COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the death of Mr. Jones Morris, which had occurred since the last meeting of the Committee, and it was agreed *nem. con.* to nominate Dr. T. Arthur Helme to fill the vacancy.

### FEES TO HOSPITAL SURGEONS FOR MEDICAL EVIDENCE AT INQUESTS.

A letter was read from a coroner forwarding a copy of a letter written by him to the County Council with respect to payments for *post-mortem* examinations by infirmary house surgeons.

It was resolved:

That the Committee express their obligation to the coroner in question for bringing the matter to their notice, and their appreciation of his desire to do justice in his official capacity to the medical profession, and greatly regret that the only way to secure that proper recognition of professional services, which the coroner desires, appears to the Committee as at present advised to be through an amendment of the law.

That the coroner's attention be drawn to the Coroners Bill, and that, with respect to the suggestion to approach the Lord Chancellor, he be informed that this has already been done.

### SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL.

A communication was read from a metropolitan Division of the Association stating that Clause 2 of the declaration to be signed by candidates for the membership of the General Medical Council was likely to exclude many desirable candidates, and asking the Committee and the Central Council to consider whether it would not be desirable to amend the clause, so as not to restrain from independent action the representatives elected. It was resolved that the Division be informed that the matter having been definitely decided by the Representative Meeting at Oxford could only be altered by a resolution of a Representative Meeting. The clause referred to is as follows:

I agree, further, that if nominated by the Association and elected as a Direct Representative on the General Medical Council I will, in my capacity as such representative, endeavour in every way in my power to give effect to the wishes and opinions of the British Medical Association as lawfully declared for the time being by the bodies constitutionally authorized to declare such wish and opinions.

### ACTION OF THE COUNCIL RESPECTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN reported that the Council had decided that a special committee should be formed for the preparation and submission of evidence to the Royal Commission on the Poor Law, and that the Council had referred the question of inserting warning notices as an advertisement in other medical periodicals to the Journal and Finance Committee for consideration and report.

### PARLIAMENTARY SUBCOMMITTEE.

The minutes of the Parliamentary Subcommittee of October 18th and November 8th were received.

### ACTION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT IN MEDICAL MATTERS.

It was resolved:

That in the constituency of each Member of Parliament who has conspicuously supported or opposed the policy of the Association in matters affecting the profession, the Medical Secretary be instructed to inform the medical profession of the action taken by the Member of Parliament.

The Chairman and Secretary were directed to prepare a list of such Members of Parliament and circulate it to the Committee for suggestions.

### QUESTIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

It was resolved that the medical inspection of school

children should be added to the list of subjects suggested for use by Divisions in interviewing parliamentary candidates.

CONTRACT PRACTICE SUBCOMMITTEE.

It was resolved:

That the following gentlemen, nominated by the Subcommittee, be elected Members of the Subcommittee: Mr. W. J. Greer, Dr. A. A. Mackeith, and Dr. R. H. Wolstenholme.

The following minute of the Subcommittee was approved:

That it be recommended that provision should be made in the local rules constituting a Branch Emergency Fund for the possible ultimate use of such funds in other areas than those for which they were originally provided, and that the Medico-Political Committee should consider the advisability of instituting a General Emergency Fund in connexion with the Association.

It was further resolved that it be recommended to the Council that a Central Emergency Fund, under the management of the Medico-Political Committee, be created by voluntary subscriptions. The Committee also decided that if the foregoing recommendation be approved by the Council, the Contract Practice Subcommittee be instructed to prepare a scheme.

THE MIDWIVES ACT.

The minutes of the Midwives Subcommittee of October 27th were received.

CONSTITUTION OF MIDWIVES BOARD.

The minute of the Representative Meeting indicating that the Central Midwives Board did not contain a sufficient number of general practitioners was read and noted as a matter for consideration in any proposed amendment of the Midwives Act.

CONTROL OVER DRUGS BY MIDWIVES.

With respect to Minute 206 (*d*) of the Representative Meeting, suggesting that control over drugs should be withheld from those midwives who have not passed an examination, it was resolved:

That in the opinion of the Committee it is impracticable, however desirable, for the Midwives Board to make any distinction of the kind suggested between midwives who have been admitted to the roll, whether they have passed an examination or not.

ATTENDANCE ON A MIDWIFE'S CALL.

On the consideration of the Minute 207 of the Representative Meeting, with reference to the implication that medical men are compelled to attend upon summons by a midwife, it was resolved:

That it should be left to each Division to take such action as it may think proper for this purpose, for example, by drawing the attention of all practitioners or midwives practising in its area to the fact that medical practitioners are under no legal obligation to attend upon the summons of a midwife.

With reference to the following minute of the Sub-committee:

That the scale of the Metropolitan Counties Branch be submitted to the Divisions as a basis for adoption, subject to such modifications as may be necessary to meet local requirements.

It was resolved that a draft report be circulated to the Committee.

It was further resolved:

That it be recommended to the Council that, in view of the fact that the Rules framed by the Central Midwives Board, under Section 3 of the Midwives Act, 1902, remain in force only until August 12th, 1906, steps be taken to obtain the views of the Divisions in England with regard to the same, in order that any desired alterations or additions may be subsequently submitted to the Central Midwives Board and the General Medical Council.

DEPUTATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD WITH REGARD TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported that the President of the Local Government Board had consented to receive, on November 30th, a deputation from the Association, together with other bodies interested in security of tenure of medical officers of health and sanitary inspectors.

[A report of the proceedings of the deputation was published in the SUPPLEMENT of December 9th, 1905, p. 325.]

SECURITY OF TENURE OF PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

With reference to the resolution of the Representative Meeting that the matter of the security of tenure of public vaccinators be referred back to the Committee for transmission to the Divisions for their consideration and report, it was resolved:

That the Secretary be instructed to prepare a draft memorandum on the point for circulation to the Divisions, in accordance with the previous report of the Joint Subcommittee approved by the Council.

## IRISH COMMITTEE.

A MEETING was held in the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, on October 14th, 1905, when there were present: Professor BYERS (Belfast) in the chair; Dr. R. B. Carey, Borris, co. Carlow; Dr. James Craig, Dublin; Dr. J. S. Darling, Lurgan; Dr. Joseph Giusani, Cork; Dr. P. G. Lee, Cork; Dr. D. J. O'Connor, Cork; Dr. Cecil Shaw, Belfast; Dr. Denis Walshe, Graigue, co. Kilkenny, and Professor White, Dublin.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

Professor BYERS was appointed Chairman, and Professor WHITE Honorary Secretary of the Committee for the ensuing year.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

It was resolved:

That meetings of the Committee be held in Dublin only during the ensuing year. The next meeting to be held on Saturday, January 6th, 1906, at 3 p.m.

CONNAUGHT BRANCH.

It was resolved:

That the Secretary of the Committee be requested (*a*) to confer with Dr. Mills, of Ballinasloe, with a view of obtaining his services as the Honorary Secretary of the Connaught Branch; (*b*) to visit Connaught if necessary, and (*c*) to report to next meeting.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE POOR LAW.

Messrs. Darling and White were selected from the Committee to act on the Poor-law Joint Subcommittee of the Medico-Political and Public Health Committees.

It was resolved:

That four members of this Committee (Messrs. Carey, Darling, Shaw, and White) be appointed as a Poor-law Subcommittee with power to seek the advice and co-operation of the Irish Medical Association and of the Poor-law Association.

LUNACY LAW AMENDMENT SUBCOMMITTEE.

Dr. W. R. Dawson, Farnham House, Finglas, was nominated to act on this subcommittee.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The cordial thanks of the Committee were accorded to the President and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland for allowing the Committee to hold its meetings in the College.

## COLONIAL COMMITTEE.

AT a meeting of the Colonial Committee at the office of the Association on October 20th, Mr. EDMUND OWEN was elected Chairman, and the following members were present: Dr. C. G. D. Morier, Professor W. R. Smith, Mr. C. R. Straton, and Dr. G. E. Twynam. The following members of Colonial Branches at present in England also attended the meeting: Mr. Donald Armour, representing Canada; Dr. H. A. Francis, representing Queensland; Dr. F. O. Stedman, representing Hong Kong; Dr. A. J. Chalmers and Dr. H. G. Thomasz, representing Ceylon.

CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE.

Under By-law 40 (4) this Committee consists of five members appointed by the representatives of the Colonial Branches on the Council and two by the Council. It was reported that the Colonial Representatives had met and had chosen Major C. Duer, I.M.S., Dr. C. G. D. Morier, Professor W. R. Smith, and Dr. G. E. Twynam to serve on the Committee, leaving one vacancy to be filled up by the Colonial Representatives at a future date. The Representatives of the Council on the Committee are Mr. Edmund Owen and Mr. C. R. Straton.

MEDICAL REGISTRATION IN AUSTRALIA.

The Subcommittee on this subject (see SUPPLEMENT, July 15th, 1905, p. 62), consisting of Mr. Donald Armour, Dr. Morier, and Dr. Twynam, was reappointed.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The following recommendations were adopted by the Committee:

*Malta Branch.*

That this Committee regrets to learn that the members of the Malta Branch are dissatisfied with the assurance of the Colonial Secretary that no slur was intended or cast upon the members of the Maltese Lunacy Committee by the appointment of Major Lawson to the Committee, and that the Chairman be requested again to approach the Colonial Secretary in the hope of obtaining a reconsideration of the case.

*Ceylon Branch.*

That the Ceylon Branch be informed that since it first forwarded the "Ordinance to Provide for the Registration of Medical Practitioners in Ceylon," this Committee has received from the Colonial Office a later print of the Ordinance, embodying the amendments desired by the Committee.

*Bermuda Branch.*

That the Colonial Committee having reconsidered Clause 13 as proposed to be introduced into the Medical Registration Act, 1905, for the Bermudas or Somers Islands, is of opinion that any medical practitioner duly registered within the United Kingdom ought to be able to enter any British Colony or Dependency and be entitled to practise on producing evidence of his registration in the United Kingdom. The Colonial Committee would further point out that it has already urged His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies as to the expediency of registering in any Colony or Dependency only those medical qualifications which are registrable in the United Kingdom.

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Public Health Committee was held at the office of the Association on November 29th, when there were present: Mr. C. H. WATTS PARKINSON in the Chair; Dr. J. Groves, Mr. Herbert Jones, Dr. F. C. Martley, Dr. T. G. Nasmyth.

SECURITY OF TENURE OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH AND INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

The following letter, received from the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich, was read:

October 23rd, 1905.

Sir,—I am directed by the Woolwich Borough Council to inform you that they have recently had under their consideration a report from their Medical Officer of Health upon the subject of certain resolutions passed at the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health held in August last, and especially that relating to security of tenure of medical officers of health and inspectors of nuisances. The Council are satisfied that the existing arrangements in London under the Public Health (London) Act work satisfactorily, and that provision should be made to extend this arrangement so as to give a similar security of tenure to those officers in the country.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) ARTHUR B. BRYCESON,

Town Clerk.

The Medical Secretary was instructed to write to the Woolwich Borough Council expressing appreciation of their valued support.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

By the request of the Chairman, the President, Chairman of Council, and Secretary of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association attended to consider the arrangements for the deputation to the President of the Local Government Board in support of this measure.

Points were agreed upon as to the objects of the deputation and speakers.

[A report of the proceedings of the deputation was published in the SUPPLEMENT of December 9th, 1905, p. 325.]

EXPERT EVIDENCE.

Attention was drawn to the practice in some districts of medical members of public bodies giving expert advice in order to avoid the necessity for appointing expert officials, and the Ethical Committee was requested to consider the propriety of this practice, and the advisability of circulating an inquiry to the Divisions on the subject.

WARNING NOTICE.

The MEDICAL SECRETARY reported that an application had been received from the Honorary Secretary of the South-West Wales Division for the insertion of a warning notice in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL with respect to a vacant Poor-law appointment at Aberystwyth.

The warning notice was directed to be inserted in the columns of the JOURNAL in accordance with the regulations laid down by the Council.

## POOR-LAW SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Poor-law Special Committee was held at the office of the Association on November 8th, when Dr. J. BRASSEY BRIERLEY was chosen Chairman. The following members were present: Dr. J. Ford Anderson, Dr. R. C. Buist, Dr. J. S. Darling, Mr. Herbert Jones, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, Dr. Herbert Manley, Mr. W. L. Muir, Dr. J. E. Moorhouse, Dr. H. F. Oldham, Mr. C. H. Watts Parkinson, Mr. C. R. Straton, and Professor A. H. White.

The resolution of the Council appointing the Committee, and resolutions of the Medico-Political, Public Health, Hospitals, Scottish, and Irish Committees in reference thereto were read; also correspondence with the Prime Minister on the subject of the appointment of medical members of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law, and with reference to submission of evidence by the British Medical Association to the Commission.

POOR-LAW MATTERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

It was resolved:

That the members of the Committee resident in England constitute an English Subcommittee to deal with the matters of reference in so far as they relate to England and Wales.

The English Subcommittee was given power to co-opt members specially qualified to assist in its work.

SCOPE OF INQUIRY.

It was resolved to prepare questions for circulation to: (*a*) Parochial Medical Officers direct; (*b*) Poor-law Medical Officers' Association; (*c*) Honorary Secretaries of Divisions; (*d*) Honorary Secretaries of Branches; and that the questions should relate—(1) To the effect of the present Poor Law on the medical profession; (2) to the experience of the medical profession concerning the influence of the present Poor Law on the community.

It was left to the Subcommittee of each country to modify the questions with a view to circulation in that country.

Discretion was given to the Chairman and Secretary to employ expert or clerical assistance in preparing and issuing the questions and in analysing and collating the information obtained.

A list of questions for circulation was drawn up, the Chairman and Secretary being authorized to complete the draft for circulation to the Committee.

## HOSPITALS COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Hospitals Committee was held at the office of the Association on October 18th, when there were present: Dr. M. BEVERLEY (Chairman), in the chair; Mr. G. C. Franklin, F.R.C.S., President of the Association; Dr. J. Brassey Brierley, Dr. E. Lawrence Fox, Dr. E. B. Hastings, Dr. F. M. Pope.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Communications were read from certain members of the Committee appointed by the Conference on March 2nd with respect to the Joint Committee meeting on November 2nd.

CONCLUSIONS OF HOSPITALS COMMITTEE.

The conclusions of the Committee arrived at since the Conference on March 2nd were read, and it was resolved:

That the first twelve proposals shall be presented to the lay representatives at the meeting on November 2nd, without modification.

Certain verbal emendations had been made, and it was decided that the remaining resolutions of the Hospitals Committee, as amended, be presented to the Joint Committee.

JOINT COMMITTEE.

Meetings were held on November 2nd and November 16th of the Joint Committee constituted by representatives of the Conference on March 2nd and the Hospitals Committee.

# Meetings of Branches and Divisions.

*[The proceedings of the Divisions and Branches of the Association relating to Scientific and Clinical Medicine, when reported by the Honorary Secretaries, are published in the body of the* JOURNAL.*]*

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE: EASTERN PROVINCE BRANCH.

A MEETING was held at Steinman's Hotel, Grahamstown, on Friday, November 10th, at 8 p.m., Drs. J. BRUCE-BAYS in the chair.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the meeting held on September 8th were read and confirmed.

*Annual Report and Financial Statement.*—The annual report of the Secretary for 1905 was read and adopted. The financial statement for 1905 up to date was read and then adopted.

*Election of Officers.*—The following were elected office-bearers for 1906, Dr. Bruce-Bays automatically becoming President:—*President-elect:* Dr. C. E. Jones-Phillipson. *Secretary and Treasurer:* Dr. E. G. Dru Drury. *Council:* Dr. J. B. Greathead (Grahamstown); Dr. T. D. Greenlees (Grahamstown); Dr. G. E. Fitzgerald (Grahamstown); Dr. C. J. Hill-Aitken (East London); Dr. H. T. Batchelor (Queenstown); Dr. H. M. Chute (King Williamstown); Dr. G. Porter-Mathew (Port Elizabeth); Dr. Temple Smyth (Peddie); Dr. J. C. Young (Riebeck East).

*Draft By-laws.*—The draft by-laws of the Branch were then read and discussed, and it was resolved that they be printed and circulated for criticism prior to the next regular meeting. The draft by-laws for the Division were similarly read and disposed of.

*Draft of Public Health Bill.*—The draft of the new Public Health Act was then read and, after discussion, referred to a special Subcommittee consisting of Drs. Bruce-Bays and Jones-Phillipson, who promised to report to an adjourned meeting on Monday at noon.

*Exhibit.*—A phantom ear was shown on behalf of Dr. Hill-Aitken.

*Letters.*—Letters were read from Dr. Campbell-Watt, Dr. Gregory, Dr. J. M. S. Coutts, and from Mr. Guy Elliston.

*Apology.*—Dr. MULLINS stated that his name had been used without his authority by the proprietors of "Sacco," who had apologized for the same.

*"Sacco."*—Dr. JONES-PHILLIPSON gave an interesting summary of the properties and action of "Sacco" which had been offered to the proprietor for publication.

*Specimens.*—Dr. PURVIS showed sections of a chondroma from the nail bed of a boy's toe, and of an epithelioma from the dorsum of the hand in an elderly Dutchman.

## LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH:
### LIVERPOOL (NORTHERN) DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Division was held in the Liverpool Medical Institution on December 8th, Dr. J. J. TISDALL in the chair.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed.

*Annual Representative Meeting.*—An interesting and instructive account of the Annual Representative Meeting at Leicester was read by Dr. JAMES SHAW, the Representative for the Division.

*Proposed Dinner.*—The question of holding a dinner for the combined Liverpool Divisions was discussed, and letters read from the Honorary Secretary of the Central and Southern Divisions. It was decided to allow the matter to stand over until further information had been obtained.

*Matters Referred to the Divisions.*—In regard to contract practice,[1] it was resolved:

> That this stand over for the consideration of a paper by Mr. B. W. Housman, read before the Stockport, Macclesfield, and East Cheshire Division, appearing in the SUPPLEMENT to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of December 2nd last.

In regard to the co-ordination of the scientific work of the Association, its Branches, and Divisions,[2] it was resolved:

> That as regards local requirements these matters are already provided for.

*Selection of Parliamentary Candidates.*—In regard to the selection by the British Medical Association of candidates for election as direct representatives on the General Medical Council,[3] some exception was taken to paragraph 2 of the declaration by candidates, it being considered undesirable to tie the hands of a direct representative so closely, and it was eventually resolved:

> That, whilst approving in general of these suggestions, the matter should stand over for further consideration.

*Vote of Thanks.*—A cordial vote of thanks, on the proposition of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Dr. R. S. ARCHER, was unanimously passed to Dr. Shaw for his interesting paper, and a similar compliment to the Chairman for presiding terminated the proceedings.

[1] See SUPPLEMENT, August 5th, 1905.
[2] See SUPPLEMENT, September 30th last.

## MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DIVISIONS.

A SECOND conjoint meeting of the Manchester and Salford Divisions was held in the Memorial Hall, Albert Square, Manchester, at 4.15 p.m., on Friday, December 15th.

*Medical Practitioners and Midwives.*—The meeting was held to consider the following subject: Further details in connexion with the provision of medical assistance to midwives in cases of difficult labour. At a meeting held on Tuesday, November 28th, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

> (*a*) That a list be drawn up and given to each midwife of medical men in each district willing to give such assistance.
> (*b*) That no special appointments be made.
> (*c*) Every registered medical man willing to give such assistance shall have his name placed on the list.
> (*d*) The patient's usual medical attendant, if on the list, shall in all cases have preference; and in his absence, the nearest medical man whose name is on the list shall be sent for.

A deputation was appointed to interview the Midwives Committee. At an informal meeting of the deputation the following suggestions were adopted: (1) That the local supervising authority should be responsible for the payment of fees to medical practitioners; (2) that a scale of fees should be drawn up, and that the suggested scale should be based upon the requirements of the Central Midwives Board in their instructions to midwives; (3) that every registered medical practitioner in the area shall have his name placed on the list, unless he write to the Committee asking that his name shall be left off, and that the list be reprinted quarterly; (4) the Committee recommend that when the Midwives Act is amended provision shall be made to limit this medical assistance to the deserving parturient poor; (5) the Committee would point out that the General Medical Council has full power to deal with any irregular practice or conduct of any practitioner, and that in this matter the General Medical Council shall have the fullest support of the medical profession; (6) that the scale of fees be as given in the accompanying form.

The following is the scale referred to:

| | |
|---|---|
| (*a*) In the case of a pregnant woman: | |
| (1) Where she (the midwife) suspects a deformed pelvis; (2) where there is loss of blood; and (3) where the pregnancy presents any other unusual features (as, for example, excessive sickness, persistent headache, dimness of vision, puffiness of face and hands, difficulty in emptying the bladder, incontinence of urine, large varicose veins, rupture), or where it is complicated by a fever or any other serious condition | Opinion and advice: Day call, 3s. 6d.; night call, 7s. |
| (*b*) In the case of a woman in labour: | |
| (1) In all presentations other than the uncomplicated vertex or breech ... ... ... | £2 2s. |
| In all cases of breech presentation in primiparae ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | £1 1s. |
| In all cases of severe flooding or convulsions | £1 1s.; and subsequent visits, 3s. 6d. day; 7s. night. |
| Instrumental labour ... ... ... ... | £2 2s. |
| (2) If the midwife when the cervix has become dilated is unable to make out the presentation | Opinion and advice: day call, 3s. 6d.; night call, 7s. |

[3] See SUPPLEMENT, October 7th last.

| | |
|---|---|
| (3) If an hour after the birth of a child the placenta has not been expelled and cannot be expressed (that is, pressed out), even if no bleeding has occurred | Manual removal 10s. 6d., in addition to the day or night fee of 3s. 6d. or 7s. Instrumental, £2 2s. |
| (4) In cases of rupture of the perineum or other serious injuries of the soft parts | Operation, £1 1s. |
| If the tear extends into the rectum... ... | Operation, £2 2s. |

(If delivery is performed by the practitioner he does not make an additional charge for the repair.)

(c) In the case of lying-in women and in the case of newly-born children. Whenever after delivery the progress of the woman or child is not satisfactory but in all events upon the occurrence of the subjoined conditions in:

| | |
|---|---|
| I.—The mother: | |
| (1) Abdominal swellings and signs of insufficient contraction of the uterus... ... ... | Day, 3s. 6d.; night, 7s. |
| (2) Foul-smelling discharges ... ... ... | |
| (3) Secondary post-partum haemorrhage ... | If operative interference required, £2 2s. |
| (4) Rigor ... ... ... ... ... ... | |
| (5) Rise of temperature above 100,4° F. with quickening of the pulse for more than twenty-four hours ... ... ... ... ... ... | |
| (6) Unusual swelling of the breasts with local tenderness or pain ... ... ... ... | Day, 3s. 6d.; night, 7s. |
| If ending in mammary abscess requiring operative interference and dressing ... ... | £1 1s. in addition. |
| II.—The child: | |
| (1) Injuries received during birth; (2) obvious malformations or deformities, not inconsistent with continued existence; (3) concealed malformations, incapacity to suck or to take nourishment; (4) inflammation to even the slightest degree of the eyes, eyelids, and ears; (5) syphilitic appearance of the skin in certain parts; (6) illness or feebleness arising from prematurity; (7) malignant jaundice (icterus neonatorum); (8) inflammation about the umbilicus (septic infection of the cord) ... ... ... ... | Opinion and advice: Day, 3s. 6d.; night, 7s. |
| (d) In all cases of the death of a woman during pregnancy, labour, or lying-in ... ... ... | Inspection: Day, 3s. 6d.; night, 7s. |
| Anaesthetist (if required) ... ... ... ... | £1 1s. |

(Fees for abortion and miscarriage to be added.)

## METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH:

### CROYDON DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Branch was held at the Croydon General Hospital on December 7th, Dr. T. R. ADAMS, Chairman, presiding.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

*Papers.*—The following papers were read: Dr. S. DUKE TURNER, "Notes upon a Case of Tuberculous Peritonitis"; Dr. J. J. MACAN, "Some Recently-introduced Methods of Anaesthesia, more particularly on the Hypodermic Injection of Scopolamine and Morphine"; Dr. HUGO, "Notes on a Case of Intussusception of the Sigmoid Flexure, with Specimens and Sections"; Dr. H. MEREDITH RICHARDS, "Small-pox," with lantern demonstration; Dr. COHEN, "Notes on a Case of Acute Intestinal Obstruction."

*Tea.*—Tea was kindly provided by the Chairman.

## NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH:

### SOUTH SHIELDS DIVISION.

A MEETING of the Division was held in the Ingham Infirmary on December 14th, Dr. CRISP, Chairman, presiding.

*Resolutions.*—The following resolutions were unanimously passed:

1. That we approve of the recommendations of the Representative Meeting with regard to contract practice.
2. That a meeting of the practitioners in the Division be held at an early date to consider the advisability of forming a public medical service in accordance with the recommendations of the Representative Meeting, as set forth in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT of August 5th, 1905.
3. That the Honorary Secretary apply to the Librarian for a list of duplicate books for the purposes of the Division Library.
4. That the Honorary Secretary be instructed to ascertain whether the balance of the Division grant may be properly applied to the purchase of books for the Division Library, of which the nucleus is already formed.
5. That a deputation consisting of Drs. Crisp, Gibbon, Nicholl, Gowans, Hunter, Ingles, and McNabb, be appointed to wait upon the Parliamentary candidates within the Division area, and to submit to them the questions suggested in the JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT of November 18th, 1905.

## SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH:

### CANTERBURY AND FAVERSHAM DIVISION.

AN ordinary meeting of this Division was held at the Herne Bay Cottage Hospital on December 7th.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

*Letters of Apology.*—Letters and telegrams of regret were read from Drs. Gosse, Burton, Tyson, FitzGerald, Alexander, Larking, Prentice, Penfold, Street, and Gauge.

*Next Meeting.*—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Sittingbourne in the early part of March, and that Dr. Gosse of Sittingbourne (Chairman of the Division) be invited to preside.

*Proposed Divisional Library.*—The formation of a divisional library was considered. Letters were read from the General Secretary of the Association with reference to the allotment to Divisions applying for a number of duplicate books from the head quarters library to form a nucleus.

*Proposed Amalgamation with Local Societies.*—The question of amalgamating the Canterbury Medical Society was considered.—Dr. EVERS proposed and Dr. HAYWARD seconded a resolution to the effect that the honorary secretary of this Division be instructed to write to the honorary secretary of the East Kent and Canterbury Medical Society suggesting amalgamation; also, that if it was agreeable, the following committee be appointed to confer with the members of the Medical Society as to the best means of bringing this about: Drs. Gosse, Whitehead Reid, Alexander, Evers, Etheridge, Henchley.

*Address.*—A useful and interesting address was delivered by Dr. ROBERT BOXALL on the Use and Abuse of Pessaries. He brought a number of pessaries of various kinds, and explained the advantages and uses of each.

*Vote of Thanks.*—A vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Kessick Bowes for presiding, and to him and Dr. Fenhoulet for entertaining the members at lunch.

### NORWOOD DIVISION.

A MEETING of the Division was held at the Streatham Hall, Streatham, on Thursday, November 9th, at 4 p.m., Dr. D. M. DONALD of Streatham in the chair.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

*Next Meeting.*—It was resolved, on the proposition of Dr. COLLINS, seconded by Mr. C. S. WOOD, that the next meeting should be held at the Lower Sydenham Hospital, on Thursday, December 14th, and that Mr. G. C. Parnell be invited to take the chair.

*Annual Representative Meeting.*—Mr. J. RAND gave an account of the Meeting of Representatives at Leicester, and a vote of thanks was moved by Dr. BUGGINS and seconded by Mr. PARNELL and carried unanimously.

*Letters from Wandsworth Division.*—Two letters from the Wandsworth Division were read and explained by Dr. BURGESS and the HONORARY SECRETARY, and it was resolved that the following seven members—namely, Messrs. Burgess, Bailey, Burton, Hetley, Prangley, Steedman, and Soper—be nominated as a committee to take into consideration the possibility and desirability of organizing an entertainment to the representatives during the next annual meeting, three of their number to be selected to meet other members nominated by the four other South London Divisions, it being understood that they reported to the Division previous to any action being definitely decided upon.

*Papers.*—The following papers were then read:—Dr. COLLMAN: Pitfalls in Diagnosis. Mr. BETHAM ROBINSON: On the Use of Taxis for Hernia, and some complications which may arise during and after its employment. Dr. GILES: Some Observations on Uterine Myomata.

*Dinner.*—After the meeting 21 members and visitors dined together.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, HASTINGS, AND SEVENOAKS DIVISIONS.

A most successful conjoint meeting of these Divisions, at which forty-three members and visitors were present, was held on Wednesday, December 13th, at 5.30 p.m., at the General Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, Mr. J. B. FOOTNER in the chair.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as correct.

*Address.*—Dr. G. H. SAVAGE gave an address on The Borderlands of Insanity, dealing with the subject in a most graphic and interesting manner, and illustrating the many points by telling cases. Dr. Savage was very heartily thanked at the close.

*Visit to Hospital.*—Many of the members availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the wards and other parts of the hospital.

*Dinner.*—The members and friends, to the number of thirty-four, afterwards dined at the Calverley Hotel.

## SOUTHERN BRANCH:

### SALISBURY DIVISION.

A MEETING of the Division was held at the Salisbury Infirmary on Wednesday, November 29th, at 8.15 p.m. Dr. HARRIS (Shaftesbury) in the chair.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

*Medical Practitioners and Midwives.*—It was proposed by Dr. STRATON and seconded by Dr. KEMPE, and carried unanimously:

> That the form sent by midwives when attending labour cases is misleading as regards payment to medical men called in to assist midwives. That the midwives should be instructed that the sending of such a form does not entail the compulsory attendance of any medical man. That on each form this should be specified, also that the patient in question should be responsible for the medical fee.

It was decided that copies of this resolution shall be sent to Secretaries of neighbouring Divisions. Proposed by Dr. FISON, seconded by Dr. ELLIS, and carried unanimously:

> That this Division recommends that in future, as there seems no legal obligation to do so, certificates shall not be given by any member of this Division for the non-attendance of children at school, unless payment for such certificate is offered.

It was decided that a copy of this resolution should be sent to the local Education Committee.

*Insurance Examination Fees.*—Dr. FISON brought to the notice of the meeting the question of fees for examination of insurance cases. It was decided that the Executive Committee should consider the subject and report to the next meeting.

*Address.*—Dr. HARRIS delivered an address, taking for his subject, Milk as an Article of Sick Diet.

*Successful Removal of Ruptured Kidney.*—Dr. KEMPE read notes on 2 cases of ruptured kidney, in which the injured organ was removed in both cases, with recovery of the patient. The meeting then terminated.

## SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH:

### AYLESBURY DIVISION.

A MEETING of this Division was held in the Board Room of the Royal Bucks Hospital at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, December 15th, Dr. BAKER in the chair.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

*Executive Committee.*—Drs. Kerr, Morrison, and Parrott were elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

*Representatives on Branch Council.*—Drs. Shaw and Kerr were elected Representatives of the Division on the Branch Council.

*State Registration of Nurses.*—The communication *re* the State Registration of Nurses was discussed, and it was decided to allow it to lie on the table.

*Parliamentary Candidates and Medical Questions.*—It was agreed to obtain the opinion of the Parliamentary candidates of the constituency on medical matters, and this was referred to the Executive Committee.

*Medical Practitioners and Midwives.*—It was resolved unanimously:

> That this meeting is glad to hear that the County Council is taking action under the Midwives Act, and hopes that this will lead to a better inspection of midwives, and that steps will be taken to consider the advisability of providing for the payment of medical men called in in emergencies under the Midwives Act.

Resolved that the above resolution be forwarded to the County Council by the Chairman.

*Royal Bucks Hospital.*—It was unanimously resolved:

> That a communication be sent asking whether the Board of Management of the hospital are agreeable to receiving a deputation to consider whether abuse of the out-patient system exists at the Royal Bucks Hospital, and whether any steps can or should be taken to remedy the same.

## STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.

THE first general meeting of the session was held at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on November 30th. The PRESIDENT (Dr. Stokes Hatton) took the chair at 3.45 p.m.

*Confirmation of Minutes.*—The minutes of the last general meeting were read and approved.

*Congratulations to Mr. W. H. Folker.*—The PRESIDENT moved and Mr. F. MILNES BLUMER seconded a hearty vote of congratulation to Mr. W. H. Folker on his election to the position of President of the North Stafford Infirmary. This was unanimously carried, and Mr. FOLKER briefly thanked the members.

*Cases.*—Cases were shown by Drs. MCALDOWIE and KING ALCOCK.

*Papers.*—The following papers were read:—Mr. W. D. SPANTON: Jamaica, a tropical holiday from a health standpoint.—Dr. A. F. MARTIN: The significance of some enlargements of the thyroid gland.—Dr. HACKWORTH STUART: The medical inspection of school children.

*Specimens.*—Pathological specimens were afterwards exhibited by Drs. HIND, STUART, COOKSON, MARTIN, AIKEN, and DICKSON.

*Exhibit.*—Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart and Co. exhibited their apparatus for the administration of ethyl chloride.

## YORKSHIRE BRANCH:

### BRADFORD DIVISION.

THE annual whist drive, supper, and dance took place at the Victoria Hotel, Bradford, on Wednesday, December 13th. About 80 ladies and gentlemen were present. The guests as they arrived were received by Dr. MITCHELL, Chairman, and Mrs. MITCHELL. At 8.30 whist commenced, and was continued until 10.15. Supper took place from 10.30 to 11.30. The CHAIRMAN proposed the toast of "The King," and afterwards Dr. H. J. CAMPBELL proposed that of "The Chairman." Dr. MITCHELL, in replying, pointed out the advantages which an event of this kind was to the medical profession in the Division. It brought members and their ladies together, and produced a feeling of *camaraderie* such as was not possible by any other means. After supper dancing went on for two hours, and the affair terminated shortly before two o'clock.

☞ *To ensure the insertion of notices in this column they must be received at the Central Offices of the Association not later than the first post on Tuesday.*

# Association Notices.

## BRANCH AND DIVISION MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: ST. PANCRAS AND ISLINGTON DIVISION.—The next meeting will be held on Friday, January 19th, 1906, at University College Hospital, at 4 p.m., when Dr. Henry Kenwood, Medical Officer of Health of Stoke Newington, will open a discussion on Disinfection in Rooms occupied by the Infectious Sick.—WYNN WESTCOTT, Honorary Secretary.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WESTMINSTER DIVISION.—A meeting of the Division will be held on Thursday, January 18th, 1906, at 20 Hanover Square, at 8.30 p.m.—W. KNOWSLEY SIBLEY, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH: TRURO DIVISION.—The next meeting will be held in the second week of January, 1906, at the Miners' Hospital, Redruth. As the present day of meeting (Thursday) seems to be inconvenient to some members, especially to those in the Penzance district, the Honorary Secretary will be glad to hear any suggestions as to an alteration.—MARK R. TAYLOR, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.—Nominations for an elective member of the Central Council to fill the vacancy created by the death of Colonel Cresswell, C.B., must be made in writing, on or before January 6th, 1906, to Dr. FRANK G. THOMAS, 69, Walter Road, Swansea.

## BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES IN IRELAND.

THE annual report of the Registrar-General for Ireland for the year 1904, being the forty-first of the series, has now been published, and at first sight the light thrown on Ireland seems somewhat encouraging.

Thus the birth-rate, 23 6 per 1,000, was 0.5 above the average of the preceding ten years, and the marriage-rate—5.22 per 1,000 of estimated population—is 0.21 above the same average, while the death-rate—18.1 per 1,000—is only 0.1 above that of the preceding decennial period.

Very little satisfaction, however, can be derived from the return, when the figures are examined in detail. Thus the estimated population in the middle of the year was 4,402,182, or 12,604 persons less than in the previous year. This is the outcome of emigration, which spelt a loss to the country of nearly 40,000 persons, and outweighed by more than one-third the natural increase of the population, or the excess of births over deaths. There may possibly be a small set-off in the shape of immigrant additions to the population, but of the number of these there is no record, and the same consideration would affect the estimates of all previous years as set forth in the tables of population supplied. These show, it may be remarked, that the estimated population of Ireland is less now than it was ten years ago by some 187,000 persons, while if the population in the middle of 1904 be compared with that estimated to exist in 1854, or half a century earlier, the total loss amounts to close upon two millions.

### BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered during the year numbered 103 811, the proportion between the two sexes being 104.9 boys to every 100 girls.

It is to be noted that of these births only 2.5 out of every 100 were illegitimate, a percentage which compares very favourably with that common in England, Wales, and Scotland. The distribution of the illegitimate children, moreover, is of interest, and probably not without significance. Thus, in Connaught only 0 7 per cent. of all the registered births were illegitimate, as against 3 4 per cent. in Ulster.

The highest birth-rate in any registration area was that of Dublin registration borough, 32.5, and the lowest that in Cavan County, 18 6.

The figures supplied as to the dates of the births afford material to the speculative. Thus we note that the average number of births on each day in the first half of the year exceeded those on each day in the second half of the year by 21. The figures would appear to indicate that women in Ireland conceive more frequently between April and September than between September and March, or, in other words, during the warm rather than the cold months of the year.

### MARRIAGES.

As has already been indicated, the ratio of marriages to the population exceeded that of the preceding ten years by about ½ per cent. Of all the marriages, 70 per cent. were between Roman Catholics, while the balance of some 6,000 marriages included those of 8 Quaker couples and of 7 Jewish couples.

In spite of this actual preponderance, marriages in the Roman Catholic community seem relatively less frequent than among persons of other denominations. Thus, for every 1,000 persons among the estimated Roman Catholic population there were only 4.59 marriages during the year as against 5.99 per 1,000 for the remainder. So far as the figures go this relative infrequency of marriage lends increased significance to the illegitimacy rates, and makes it all the more remarkable that the percentage of illegitimate children in Connaught should be so much lower than in Ulster.

Of the total marriages, 88 9 per cent. were those of bachelors with spinsters, 66 9 per cent. those of spinsters with widowers, 2.4 per cent. of bachelors with widows, and 1.8 per cent. of widowers with widows. In other words, 8 7 per cent. of all the bridegrooms were widowers, and 4.2 per cent. of the brides were widows, while in 11 out of every 100 marriages, one or both of the contracting parties had been married before.

The percentage of persons married under full age seems to have been very small when compared with corresponding percentages in England and Scotland, and some light on the educational position of Ireland seems to be afforded by the fact that 89 per cent. of the husbands, and 92 per cent. of the wives, signed their names in the marriage registers, while the remainder simply made marks.

### DEATHS.

The total number of deaths was 79,513, which is equal to a rate of 18.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The rate amongst women exceeded that among men by 0.1 per 1,000, and the combined rate was 0.1 per 1,000 higher than that of the preceding ten years.

The lowest rates were recorded in the Counties or County boroughs of Kerry, Mayo, Leitrim, Clare and Roscommon, these varying between 13.7 per 1,000 and 14.5 per 1,000. The highest rates, on the other hand, were recorded in the Counties or County boroughs of Dublin, Belfast, Omagh, and Tipperary, the lowest rate in this series, 19.0, being recorded in Tipperary, and the highest, 26.0, in Dublin.

Of the total deaths, 56.7 per cent. were registered in the first six months of the year, in which, as has already been noted, the greater number of births likewise took place.

As regards the periods of greatest mortality, the rate fell steadily from 22.1 in the first quarter of the year to 14.6 in the third quarter, rising again to 16.5 in the fourth. One notable point in respect of the deaths is the fact that little less than 20 per cent. of all of them took place either in infirmaries, hospitals, public lunatic asylums, or workhouses.

### CAUSES OF DEATH.

*Small-pox.*—From this disease only 16 deaths were recorded throughout the year, or 0.4 per 100,000 of the estimated population. Of these, 13 occurred in the province of Ulster. As for vaccination, of all the persons who died, 10 were stated never to have been vaccinated, while 4—all of them adults—had been vaccinated in infancy.

*Measles.*—The deaths from measles numbered 522, which corresponds to a rate of 12 per 100,000 of the estimated population. The great majority of the deaths were those of children under 5 years of age, and some 74 per cent. of all the deaths occurred in Dublin and Belfast. The total death-rate seems to be considerably less than the average of the preceding ten years, but presumably only because the epidemic cycle was for the time being on the ebb.

*Scarlet Fever.*—Some 47 per cent. of all the deaths were those of children under 5 years of age. The total number appears to be much under the average for the preceding ten years.

*Typhus.*—The mortality from this disease has been steadily falling for the last thirty years in Ireland, as elsewhere, and the fall has continued during the last four years. The total number of deaths recorded in 1904 was 50, and this is the lowest which has hitherto been registered in Ireland.

*Influenza.*—The deaths ascribed to this disease are equal to a rate of 27 per 100,000.

*Whooping-cough.*—The death-rate in this case was 35 per 100,000, the rate amongst females slightly exceeding that amongst males. The rate exceeds the average for the preceding decennial period by 9 per 100,000, but is below the highest record during that period. The figures seem to suggest that the epidemic cycle in this case is nearing its highest point.

*Diphtheria.*—The number of deaths from diphtheria—317—was much below the average; some 54 per cent. of the patients were children under 5 years of age, and more boys died than girls.

*Enteric Fever.*—The death-rate from this disease, 10.6 per 100,000, was slightly lower than in 1903, and seems to have been dropping since 1898. Some 24 per cent. of the deaths were among persons at the 25 to 35 age period. Of all the deaths, 67 took place in Dublin, 115 in Belfast, and 47 in Cork, the two former cities accounting for 39 per cent. of the total deaths.

*Tuberculosis.*—The aggregate death-rate from all forms of tuberculosis was 290 per 100,000 of the population, a figure which has only been equalled four times previously. This disease, therefore, accounted for 16 per cent. of all the deaths recorded. In 77 per cent. of the cases the form of the disease was phthisis. It is obvious that in Ireland tubercle is as persistent now as thirty years ago.

*Malignant Disease.*—The deaths returned as due to carcinoma, sarcoma, and cancer, are all taken together, and give a rate of 69.1 per 100,000 of population; this is an apparent increase over earlier years. When collated with the different age periods the ratio of persons dying from malignant disease over the age of 35 seems to be 180 per 100,000 for men and 210 per 100,000 for women.

*Pregnancy and Childbirth.*—A table is given of all deaths among women which were definitely returned as either caused by, or associated with pregnancy or childbirth. In

his consideration of this table, the Registrar-General states that the total rate among mothers was equal to 6.57 for every 1,000 registered births: but if only cases are considered in which death was due either to puerperal sepsis or to purely obstetric causes, the rate becomes 5.62 per 1,000 registered births.

*Imperfect Certification.*

Note is made of the fact that an undue proportion of the registered deaths continue to be assigned to causes which must be considered inadequate for the purposes of modern statistics. Thus atrophy, dropsy, tumour, haemorrhage, sudden death and similarly ill-defined "causes" all figure in the registers.

*Ages at Death.*

The infant mortality-rate for the year was 100 per 1,000 registered births, while among children under 5 years of age there were 37 deaths for every 1,000 children living at that age.

Taking the other extreme of life, there died 9 9 per cent. of all persons living above the age of 65, or nearly every tenth person over that age. Among the deaths were registered 711 persons who were stated to be upwards of 95, and this number included 86 males and 96 females returned as upwards of 100 years of age. The Registrar-General does not vouch for these ages, but remarks that when inquiries were made in some recent years as regards persons returned as centenarians, the ages appeared to be given correctly as far as the registrars could learn.

WORKHOUSES.

In his concluding remarks the Registrar-General observes that the average number of inmates of workhouses on Saturdays during the year was 70 above that of the preceding year. On the other hand, the average number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 543 below the corresponding figure for 1903.

*Acknowledgements.*—The Registrar-General makes acknowledgement of his obligations to Dr. Ninian M. Falkiner, Medical Superintendent of Statistics, for the assistance afforded by him, and also to the editor of the *Dublin Journal of Mental Science* and Sir John W. Moore for some of the meteorological returns included in the report.

## CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

A MEETING of the Central Midwives Board was held on December 14th at 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, with Dr. F. H. CHAMPNEYS in the chair.

*Midwives to be Cited to Appear before the Board.*

On the report of Dr. Thresh, County Medical Officer for Essex, communicating to the Board the finding by the local supervising authorities of a prima facie case of negligence and misconduct against a certified midwife, it was decided that she should be cited to appear before the Board.

A letter from Dr. Read, M.O.H. Worcester, was received reporting that a certified midwife had been in January, 1905, convicted of larceny, and was on October 27th, 1905, convicted and fined for having failed to notify the local supervising authority of her intention to practise as a midwife. The Board directed that the midwife should be cited to appear.

A letter from the Clerk of the County Council of Durham reporting the finding by the local supervising authority of a prima facie case of negligence and misconduct against a certified midwife was received, and it was determined that the midwife should be cited to appear.

The Clerk of the Staffordshire County Council reported the suspension from practice of a certified midwife on account of her connexion with a case of puerperal fever. The Board resolved that the midwife should be cited to appear.

*Proposed Suggestions for the Guidance of the Medical Advisers of the Local Supervising Authorities.*

The agenda paper contained the following motion by Mr. Ward Cousins, but in consequence of that gentleman not being present at the meeting the matter was postponed:

That the accompanying form of suggestions for the guidance of the medical advisers of the local supervising authorities respecting the duties of inspectors appointed to exercise general superintendence, be approved and issued to the local supervising authorities:

1. The inspector should obtain a personal knowledge of the midwives practising within the area, and should regularly inspect their homes, so as to insure the practice of domestic cleanliness and attention to sanitary details in their clothing and appliances.

2. She must strictly investigate the antiseptic precautions taken by the midwives to prevent the entrance of infectious diseases into the lying-in room; and also the facilities for the disinfection of the women and their clothing after exposure to any puerperal disorder.

3. She should be always ready to give assistance to the midwives in the discharge of their duties, and to explain to the untrained women on the local roll their obligations and responsibilities as certified midwives practising under the regulations and restrictions of the Midwives Act of 1902.

4. She must inspect the books which have to be kept by the midwives, containing full particulars of their cases, for the purpose of helping them in making the necessary entries, and completing the records with regularity, so that they may be always ready to be submitted to the medical adviser of the local authority.

5. She will be expected to aid in maintaining a correct local roll, and also to report to the local supervising authority, without delay, any charge of inattention, misconduct, or malpractice on the part of the midwife.

# Naval and Military Appointments.

ROYAL NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

SURGEON J. W. BIRD has been allowed to withdraw from the service, with a gratuity (dated Admiralty, December 12th). He was appointed Surgeon, November 29th, 1897.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty: THOMAS T. JEANS, Staff Surgeon, to the *Europa*, January 2nd 1906; CHARLES S. FACEY, Staff Surgeon, to the *Argyll*, on recommissioning; ALASTAIR F. MACKAY, Surgeon, to the *Dwarf*, on recommissioning; THOMAS E. BLUNT, Surgeon, to the *Thames*, for the *Hazard*, on recommissioning, December 28th; EDWIN FOLLIOTT, Surgeon, to the *Vivid*, for Devonport Dockyard, December 10th; EDWARD M. W. HEARN, Surgeon, to the *Ocean*, January 2nd; ALEXANDER G. WILDEY, Fleet Surgeon, and ALEXANDER C. RENWICK, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Indus*, on recommissioning, January 1st.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

COLONEL A. W. DUKE, M.D., is placed on retired pay, December 18th. Entering the service as Assistant Surgeon, October 1st, 1868, he became Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, October 1st, 1880; Brigade-Surgeon, September 8th, 1894; and Colonel, December 1st, 1898. He served in the South African war in 1899-1900 in command of a general hospital and as Principal Medical Officer of a portion of the lines of communication; he was present in operations in Cape Colony, in the Orange River Colony, and in the Transvaal, and has received the Queen's medal with three clasps.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. W. SOMERVILLE-LARGE, F.R.C.S.Edin., retires on retired pay, December 20th. He was appointed Surgeon, February 4th, 1877; Surgeon-Major, February 4th, 1889; granted the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, February 4th, 1897; and made Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, July 19th, 1899. During the South African war in 1899-1902 he was Principal Medical Officer of No. 6 General Hospital, and afterwards of No. 12 General Hospital; he was present in operations in the Transvaal, Orange River Colony, and Cape Colony, and again in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, and has the Queen's medal with three clasps and the King's medal with two clasps.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. SYLVESTER has been appointed Senior Medical Officer, Ceylon; and Lieutenant-Colonel H. H. JOHNSTON, C.B., M.D., to be Senior Medical Officer, Straits Settlements.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. BIRT, from Pretoria, has been appointed Clinical Pathologist at the Military Hospital, Millbank.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. P. INMAN, M.B., is granted the temporary rank of Colonel while officiating as Principal Medical Officer of a Division in India, from October 30th.

Captain W. R. P. GOODWIN, now stationed at Rawal Pindi, is appointed Personal Assistant to the Principal Medical Officer, Northern Command, India.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL G. J. KELLIE, Bengal Establishment, is promoted to be Colonel, October 16th. He was in the Burmese campaign in 1885-9 (medal with clasp), and with the Tirah Expeditionary Force in 1897-8, including the capture of the Tanga Pass (medal with two clasps).

The promotion of the undermentioned Majors to be Lieutenant-Colonels, which has been already announced in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, has received the approval of the King: H. R. WOOLBERT, M.B., G. H. BAKER, M.B., J. R. ADYE, M.B., A. C. YOUNAN, M.B., A. W. ALCOCK, M.B., C.I.E., and J. M. CADELL, M.B.

The King has sanctioned the retirement from the service, from the dates specified, of Captain J. L. MACINNES, M.B., July 28th, and Captain J. A. BARNES, December 9th.

The retirement from the service of the undermentioned officers, which has been already announced in the JOURNAL, has received the King's sanction: Colonel J. T. B. BOOKEY, C.B., Colonel J. M'CONAGHEY, M.D., Colonel M. D. MORIARTY, M.D., Lieutenant-Colonel J. CROFTS, M.D., Lieutenant-Colonel R. R. H. WHITWELL, M.B., Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. ROGERS.

Colonel J. S. WILKINS, D.S.O., Bombay Establishment, has retired from the service from November 11th. He joined the department as Assistant-Surgeon, March 31st, 1874, and became Colonel, October 2nd, 1900. He served in the Afghan war in 1880, including the march from Quetta to the relief of Kandahar (medal); with the Burmese Expedition in 1886-7 (mentioned in dispatches, medal with two clasps); and in the South African war in 1902 (Queen's medal with three clasps).

Lieutenant-Colonel J. LEWTAS, M.D., Bengal Establishment, has also retired from the service, November 21st. He was appointed Assistant-Surgeon, September 30th, 1875, and made Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, September 30th, 1895. He was in the Afghan war of 1878-80, and was at the taking of Ali Musjid, the action of Futtehabad, the storming of the Takht-i-Shah heights and of the Asmai heights (mentioned in dispatches), and in the engagement at Charasiah (mentioned in dispatches, medal with two clasps).

The promotion of the undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains,

which have already appeared in the JOURNAL, has received the approval of the King: J. H. MURRAY, M.B., F. P. MACKIE, M.B., A. T. PRIDHAM, M.B., F. P. CONNOR, J. O'LEARY, M.B., S. R. CHRISTOPHERS, M.B., H. EMSLIE-SMITH, M.B., H. R. DUTTON, V. B. NESFIELD, H. M. BROWN, M.B., A. F. PILKINGTON, P. G. EASION, W. W. JEUDWINE, M.B., T. C. McC. YOUNG, M.B., G. A. JOLLY, M.B., H. C. BROWN, M.B., G. H. L. WHALE, M.B., A. K. LAUDDIE, M.B., W. J. COLLINSON, M.B., C. L. DUNN, H. M. H. MELHUISH, H. H. KIDDLE, R. F. C. TALBOT, M.D., R. D. SAIGOL, C. E. BULTEEL, J. L. LUNHAM, M.B., F. C. ROGERS, M. BA-KET, M.B., and C. A. F. HINGSTON.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir W. R. HOOPER, K.C.S.I., retired pay, is granted the honorary rank of Colonel on appointment as King's Honorary Surgeon, August 6th, 1904.

### ARMY MEDICAL RESERVE.

SURGEON-MAJOR T. PHILIP, M.B., to be Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, December 4th.

### ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY (VOLUNTEERS).

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT C. E. M. LOWE, 8th Lancashire, resigns his commission, December 13th. He is appointed Captain in the same corps from the same date.

### VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT R. ABERNETHY, M.D., the Queen's Rifle Volunteer Brigade, the Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), resigns his commission, December 13th.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. ATKINSON, M.D., 3rd (Cambridgeshire) Volunteer Battalion the Suffolk Regiment, is granted the honorary rank of Surgeon-Colonel, November 1st. He resigns his commission from the same date, retaining his rank and uniform.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel D. THOMSON, M.D., 3rd Volunteer Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment (Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, Senior Medical Officer Bedford Volunteer Infantry Brigade), is granted the honorary rank of Surgeon-Colonel, December 13th. He resigns his commission from the same date, retaining his rank and uniform.

NELSON JOHNSTONE to be Surgeon-Lieutenant in the 3rd Volunteer Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment, December 13th.

WILLIAM J. COLLINGS to be Surgeon-Lieutenant in the 1st Volunteer Battalion the Prince of Wales's Volunteers (South Lancashire Regiment), December 13th.

Surgeon-Captain R. STIRLING, M.D., 4th (Perthshire) Volunteer Battalion the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), to be Surgeon-Major, December 13th.

Surgeon-Captain W. D. MACFARLANE, 3rd (Renfrewshire) Volunteer Battalion Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders), resigns his commission, December 13th.

Surgeon-Lieutenant C. F. WIGHTMAN, 1st (Hertfordshire) Volunteer Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment, resigns his commission, December 20th.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel and Honorary Surgeon-Colonel G. MIDDLEMASS, M.D., 1st Volunteer Battalion the Durham Light Infantry, resigns his commission, retaining his rank and uniform, December 20th.

### ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (VOLUNTEERS).

HAROLD COLLINSON, M.B., to be Lieutenant in the Leeds Companies, Northern Command, December 13th.

ALEXANDER W. F. SAYRES to be Lieutenant in the Devon Bearer Company, December 13th.

Lieutenant P. MITCHELL, M.D., Aberdeen Companies, Scottish Command, to be Captain, December 20th.

### CHANGES OF STATION.

THE following changes of station amongst the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps have been officially reported to have taken place during November:

| | | FROM | TO |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lieut.-Col. | G. H. Sylvester | Netley | Ceylon. |
| ,, | A. Peterkin, M.B. | Curragh | Mauritius. |
| ,, | J. Gibson, M.B. | Templemore | Limerick. |
| ,, | H. H. Johnston, C.B., M.D. | Netley | Straits Settlem't. |
| ,, | T. B. Winter | Gosport | Portsmouth. |
| ,, | G. Cree | Devonport | Secunderabad. |
| Major | J. J. O'Donnell, M.B. | York | Leeds. |
| ,, | R. Holyoake | Colchester | India. |
| ,, | A. E. Smithson, M.B. | Chester | Brecon. |
| ,, | H. J. Parry, D.S.O., M.B. | — | Bloemfontein. |
| ,, | J. E. Brogden | Portsmouth | Hong Kong. |
| ,, | C. C. Fleming, D.S.O., M.B. | Glasgow | Malta. |
| ,, | C. B. Martin, M.B. | Netley | Straits Settlem't. |
| ,, | J. F. M. Kelly, M.B. | Kilworth | Templemore. |
| ,, | T. P. Jones, M.B. | Woolwich | Hong Kong. |
| ,, | A. C. Fox | — | Bulford. |
| Captain | J. E. Carter, M.B. | Half-pay | Dublin. |
| ,, | S. W. Sweetnam | Colchester | Warley. |
| ,, | R. Blackham | Bulford | Devonport. |
| ,, | F. E. Gunter, M.B. | York | Curragh. |
| ,, | E. C. Hayes | London District | Ceylon. |
| ,, | E. T. F. Birrell, M.B. | Murree | Aldershot. |
| ,, | T. H. M. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.B. | Colchester | India. |
| ,, | P. MacKessack, M.B. | Devonport | Falmouth. |
| ,, | W. H. S. Nickerson, V.C., M.B. | Bulford | West Africa. |
| ,, | M. M. Lowsley | Sandown | Portsmouth. |
| ,, | C. J. O'Gorman, D.S.O. | Dover | Maidstone. |
| ,, | F. J. C. Heffernan | York | India. |
| ,, | H. M. Nicholls, M.B. | Cork | Kinsale. |
| ,, | A. L. A. Webb | Kirkee | Eastern Com'd. |
| ,, | A. A. Seeds, M.D. | Harrismith | Middelburg, C.C. |
| ,, | E. P. Connolly | Enniskillen | Belfast. |
| ,, | E. W. Siberry | Kilkenny | Cahir. |
| ,, | P. S. O'Reilly | Quetta | Aldershot. |
| ,, | A. M. MacLaughlin, M.B. | Dundalk | Kildare. |
| ,, | C. S. Smith, M.B. | Woolwich | Mauritius. |
| ,, | A. H. Safford | Shahjehanpur | Eastern Comd. |
| | James M. Buist, M.B. | Eastern Comd | Colchester. |
| Captain | J. G. Churton | Nowgong | Eastern Comd. |
| ,, | E. Bennett | Devonport | Exeter. |
| ,, | J. Tobin | Dublin | Clonmel. |
| ,, | W. L. Bennett | Jullunder | Edinburgh. |
| ,, | C. R. L. Ronayne, M.B. | Calcutta | Campbellpore. |
| ,, | H. R. Bateman | Malta | London District. |
| ,, | C. G. Thomson | Ballykinder Cp. | Enniskillen. |
| ,, | J. Waddell, M.B. | — | Middelburg, Transvaal. |
| Lieutenant | J. W. S. Seccombe | Southern Comd. | Devonport. |
| ,, | C. Kyley | Cork | Hong Kong. |
| ,, | G. A. D. Harvey | Curragh | Straits Settle't. |
| ,, | A. W. Fraser, M.B. | Kilbride | W. China. |
| ,, | A. T. Frost, M.B. | Aldershot | Hong Kong. |
| ,, | K. A. C. Doig | York | India. |
| ,, | C. R. Millar | Longmoor | Ceylon. |
| ,, | G. H. Richard | Bulford | India. |
| ,, | A. W. Gater | Woolwich | ,, |
| ,, | G. S. Wallace, M.B. | Netley | Mauritius. |
| ,, | P. Power, M.B. | Curragh | Jamaica. |
| ,, | J. S. Pascoe | Netley | Egypt |

Lieutenant-Colonels W. Finlay and G. E. Moffet, M.B., retired pay, have been placed in medical charge of troops at Jersey and Perth respectively.

# Vital Statistics.

### HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

IN seventy-six of the largest English towns, including London, 8,179 births and 5,076 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday last, December 16th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 17.9, 16.7, and 16.1 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, rose again last week to 17.0 per 1,000. The rates in the several towns ranged from 9.0 in Burton-on-Trent and in King's Norton, 9.3 in Hornsey, 9.5 in Bournemouth, 9.9 in St. Helens, 10.2 in Croydon, and 10.7 in Reading and in Tynemouth, to 20.2 in Tottenham, 20.7 in Middlesbrough, 20.8 in Bootle, 21.1 in Liverpool, 21.2 in Halifax, 22.6 in Hanley, and 27.0 in Preston. In London the rate of mortality was 19.2 per 1,000, while it averaged 16.0 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns. The death-rate from the principal infectious diseases averaged 1.3 per 1,000 in the seventy-six large towns; in London this death-rate was equal to 1.5 per 1,000, while in the seventy-five other large towns the rates ranged upwards to 2.3 in Bristol and in West Bromwich, 2.4 in Birmingham, 2.5 in Bootle and in Leeds, 2.7 in Blackburn, 3.1 in Wolverhampton, 3.2 in Middlesbrough, and 5.9 in Preston. Measles caused a death-rate of 1.5 in Bristol, 1.6 in Leeds, 1.7 in Barrow-in-Furness, 2.0 in Blackburn, and 5.4 in Preston; scarlet fever of 1.2 in St. Helens; diphtheria of 1.2 in Rochdale; whooping-cough of 1.3 in Gateshead; 1.4 in Devonport, 1.8 in West Bromwich and in Warrington, and 2.5 in Bootle; and diarrhoea of 1.2 in Cardiff, 1.3 in Reading, and 2.1 in Middlesbrough. The mortality from "fever" showed no marked excess in any of the large towns. No fatal case of small-pox was registered last week in any of the large towns, and no small-pox patients were under treatment during the week in the Metropolitan Asylums Hospitals. The number of scarlet fever patients in these hospitals and in the London Fever Hospital, which had been 4,127, 4,021, and 3,888 at the end of the three preceding weeks, had further declined to 3,670 at the end of last week; 341 new cases were admitted during the week, against 470, 375, and 355 in the three preceding weeks.

### HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday last, December 16th, 952 births and 609 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 21.9, 18.7, and 19.9 in the three preceding weeks, declined again to 18.2 per 1,000 last week, but was 1.2 per 1,000 above the mean rate during the same period in the seventy-six large English towns. Among these Scotch towns the death-rates ranged from 14.1 in Leith and 15.6 in Aberdeen to 21.0 in Dundee and 23.8 in Greenock. The death-rate from the principal infectious diseases averaged 1.9 per 1,000 in these towns, the highest rates being recorded in Dundee and Greenock. The 286 deaths registered in Glasgow included 15 which were referred to measles, 2 to whooping-cough, and 6 to diarrhoea. Eleven deaths from measles occurred in Dundee; 4 from diarrhoea in Aberdeen, 2 from diarrhoea in Paisley, and 3 from measles and 3 from scarlet fever in Greenock.

### HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

During the week ending Saturday, December 16th, 506 births and 334 deaths were registered in six of the principal Irish towns as against 471 births and 360 deaths in the preceding period. The annual death-rate in these towns, which had been 20.6, 19.9, and 18.6 per 1,000 in the three preceding weeks, fell to 17.4 per 1,000 in the week under notice, this figure being 0.4 per 1,000 higher than the mean annual rate in the seventy-six English towns for the corresponding period. The figures ranged from 8.7 in Londonderry and 9.7 in Waterford to 23.3 in Cork and 24.6 in Limerick. The zymotic death-rate during the same period and in the same six Irish towns averaged 0.7 per 1,000, or 0.2 per 1,000 lower than during the preceding period, the highest figure—1.4—being recorded in Limerick, while Cork and Waterford registered no deaths under this heading at all. There were 3 deaths from typhus fever recorded in Sligo.

## LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

**MEMBERS are reminded that the Library and Writing Rooms of the Association are fitted up for the accommodation of the members in commodious apartments, at the office of the Association, 429, Strand. The rooms are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Members can have their letters addressed to them at the office.**

# Vacancies and Appointments.

## VACANCIES.

*This list of vacancies is compiled from our advertisement columns, where full particulars will be found. To ensure notice in this column, advertisements must be received not later than the first post on Wednesday morning.*

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY.—Demonstrator of Anatomy. Stipend, £175 per annum.

BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.—(1) Pathologist. Bacteriologist, and Director of Clinical Laboratories. Salary, £250 per annum. (2) Medical Registrar. (3) Surgical Registrar.

BRISTOL: UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Professor of Pathology.

CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Fulham Road, S.W.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum.

EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Shadwell, E.—House-Physician. Honorarium, £25 for six months.

EVELINA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Southwark.—Eight Qualified Clinical Assistants in the Out-patient Department.

LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL, Liverpool Road, N.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £250 per annum.

LONDON THROAT HOSPITAL, Great Portland Street.—Third Honorary Anaesthetist.

NOTTINGHAM GENERAL DISPENSARY.—Assistant Resident Surgeon for the new Branch, Hyson Green. Salary, £160 per annum.

ROYAL LONDON OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, City Road, E.C.—Two Refraction Assistants. Salary, £25 per annum.

SAMARITAN FREE HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Marylebone Road, N.W.—Clinical Assistants.

SEAMAN'S HOSPITAL, Greenwich.—(1) Two Assistant Physicians. (2) Assistant Physician or Surgeon for diseases of the throat, nose, and ear.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY, Greenwich.—Pathologist at the Dreadnought Hospital. Salary, £100 per annum.

SHOREDITCH: PARISH OF ST. LEONARD.—Second Assistant Medical Officer for the Infirmary. Salary at the rate rate of £100 per annum.

SOUTHPORT INFIRMARY.—Resident Junior House and Visiting Surgeon. Salary at the rate of £70 per annum.

STAFFORD: STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Honorarium, £41 for six months.

STOCKPORT INFIRMARY.—Junior Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £40 per annum.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT: NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY AND EYE HOSPITAL, Hartshill.—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £50 per annum.

TIVERTON INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.—House-Surgeon and Dispenser. Salary, £80 per annum.

WOLVERHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.—Assistant House-Physician. Honorarium at the £75 per annum.

CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS.—The Chief Inspector of Factories announces a vacancy in the office of Certifying Factory Surgeon at Loughborough, county Leicester; Esher, county Surrey.

## APPOINTMENTS.

BAGGS, J. C., L.S.A., Medical Officer to the Para Electric Railway and Lighting Company.

BURGESS, A. H., F.R.C.S.Eng., M.B., M.Sc.Vict., Assistant to the Professor of Systematic Surgery in the Victoria University of Manchester.

FISHER, W. H., M.B.Camb., Medical Officer of Health, Walsingham Rural District.

FISON, E. T., M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Salisbury.

FLETCHER, H. N., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S Edin., Junior Resident Medical Officer to St. Mary's Hospital, Whitworth Street, Manchester.

GLANVILLE, Wm. G., M.B., B.Ch.Oxon., District Medical Officer of the Parish of Hampstead.

GOLDSMITH, B. K., M.B., Ch.B.Edin., D.P.H., House-Surgeon to the St. Mary's Hospital, Clifford Street, Manchester.

GRÜNBAUM, Otto, M.D.Cantab., M.R.C.P., D.Sc.Lond., Assistant Physician of the London Hospital.

HANDLEY, W. Sampson, M.S., M.D.Lond., F.R.C.S.Eng., Assistant Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital.

HARRISON, Percy Ernest, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Irel., L.M., House-Surgeon to the Stockport Infirmary.

HESLOP, J. W., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Surgical Registrar to the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

JACKSON, F. D. Selmes, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., House Physician to the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children.

JORDAN, C. Alfred C., M.D.Cantab., Medical Officer to the Electrical Department of the Metropolitan Hospital.

MACLACHLAN, J., M.B., C.M.Glasg., Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Dornoch District, co. Sutherland.

MARKS, Urban, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant House-Surgeon, Swansea General Hospital.

PITHIE, A. D., L.R.C.P. and S.Edin., L.F.P.S Glasg., Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Lymington District, co. Hants.

POCHIN, F. L., M.B., C.M.Edin., Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Fakenham District, co. Norfolk.

RALPHS, F. G., M.B., Ch.B.Vict., Senior Resident Medical Officer to the St. Mary's Hospital, Whitworth Street, Manchester.

REW, George R., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Assistant House and Visiting Surgeon to the Stockport Infirmary.

SHAW, W. F., M.B., Ch.B.Vict., Resident Obstetric Assistant Surgeon and House-Surgeon to the St. Mary's Hospital, Whitworth Street, Manchester.

WAUGH, R. J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Assistant Medical Officer, Fulham Parish Infirmary.

WILLIAMS, W. R. E., M.B., Ch.B.Edin., Medical Officer of Health, Pembroke Rural District.

WRIGHT, William, D.Sc., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., Lecturer on Anatomy at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

*The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which sum should be forwarded in post-office orders or stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday morning, in order to insure insertion in the current issue.*

### MARRIAGE.

BAINBRIDGE-SMITH.—On December 13th, at the South Croydon Wesleyan Church, by the Rev. C. E. Mees, B.A., assisted by the Rev. Walter Hawkins and Rev. W. R. Dent, Francis Arthur Bainbridge, M.A., M.D., D.Sc., M.R.C.P., son of R. R. Bainbridge, Esq., of Stockton-on-Tees, to Hilda Winifred, daughter of the Rev. Edward Thornton Smith, Wesleyan Minister.

### DEATH.

CARTER.—On December 14th, at Shottery Hall, Stratford-on-Avon, Thomas Albert Carter, M.D., F.R.C.P., J.P., aged 71.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Right to Torture. By "Laicus." Naas: *Leinster Leader* Office. 1905. 9d.

Catharine Grace Loch, Royal Red Cross Senior Lady Superintendent Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service for India: a Memoir. Edited by A. F. Bradshaw, M.A., C.B. London: Henry Frowde. 1905. 4s.

Diet och Föda betraktade i sitt förhallande till styrka och uthallighet, träning och sport. Af Alexander Haig, M.A., M.D.Oxon., F.R.C.P., Bemyndigad öfversättning fran femte Engelska upplagan. Stockholm: Wahlström and Widstrands Forlag. 1905.

Clinical Obstetrics. By R. Jardine, M.D., M.R.C.S., F.F.P.and S.G., F.R.S.E. Second edition. London: Rebman, Limited. 1905. 17s.

Lectures on Clinical Psychiatry. By Dr. E. Kraepelin. Authorized translation from the second German edition. Revised and edited by T. Johnstone, M.D., M.R.C.P. Second edition. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1906. 10s. 6d.

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# CALENDAR OF THE ASSOCIATION.

| Month. | Day of Week. | Meetings to be Held. |
|---|---|---|
| Dec. | 24...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 25...Monday ... | *Christmas Day.* |
| ,, | 26...Tuesday ... | *Boxing Day.* |
| ,, | 27...Wednesday | |
| ,, | 28...Thursday... | |
| ,, | 29...Friday ... | |
| ,, | 30...Saturday... | |
| ,, | 31...Sunday.. | |
| 1906. | | |
| Jan. | 1...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 2...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 3...Wednesday | London: Medico-Political Committee, 3 p.m. |
| ,, | 4...Thursday... | Swansea Division, *South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch*, General Hospital, Swansea, 3 p.m. |
| ,, | 5...Friday ... | London: Ethical Committee, 2 p.m. |
| ,, | 6...Saturday... | Dublin: Irish Committee, 3 p.m. |
| ,, | 7...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 8...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 9...Tuesday ... | London: Premises and Library Committee, 3 p.m. |
| ,, | 10...Wednesday | London: Journal and Finance Committee, 2.30 p.m. |
| ,, | 11...Thursday ... | |
| ,, | 12...Friday ... | Hampstead Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch.* |
| ,, | 13...Saturday ... | |
| ,, | 14...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 15...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 16...Tuesday ... | Science Committee, 2.30 p.m., London. |
| ,, | 17...Wednesday | Central Council, 2 p.m. |
| ,, | 18...Thursday... | City Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, 4 p.m. Westminster Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, 20, Hanover Square, 8.30 p.m. |
| ,, | 19...Friday ... | St. Pancras and Islington Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, University College Hospital, 4 p.m. |
| ,, | 20...Saturday ... | |
| ,, | 21...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 22...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 23...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 24...Wednesday | |
| ,, | 25...Thursday... | Wandsworth Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Balham Hotel, 8.45 p.m. |
| ,, | 26...Friday ... | |
| ,, | 27...Saturday ... | |
| ,, | 28...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 29...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 30...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 31...Wednesday | Bath and Bristol Branch, Bristol. |
| Feb. | 1...Thursday... | Swansea Division, *South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch*, General Hospital, Swansea, 3 p.m. Wandsworth Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Bolingbroke Hospital, 4 p.m. |
| ,, | 2...Friday ... | |
| ,, | 3...Saturday... | |
| ,, | 4...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 5...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 6...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 7...Wednesday | |
| ,, | 8...Thursday ... | |
| ,, | 9...Friday ... | Hampstead Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch.* |
| ,, | 10...Saturday ... | |
| ,, | 11...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 12...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 13...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 14...Wednesday | |
| ,, | 15...Thursday ... | |
| ,, | 16...Friday ... | |
| ,, | 17...Saturday ... | |
| ,, | 18...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 19...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 20...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 21...Wednesday | |
| ,, | 22...Thursday... | City Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, 4 p.m. Wandsworth Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch*, Battersea Town Hall, 3 p.m. |
| ,, | 23...Friday ... | |
| ,, | 24...Saturday... | |
| ,, | 25...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 26...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 27...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 28...Wednesday... | Bath and Bristol Branch, Bath. |
| March | 1...Thursday... | Swansea Division, *South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch*, General Hospital, Swansea, 3 p.m. |
| ,, | 2...Friday ... | |
| ,, | 3...Saturday... | |
| ,, | 4...Sunday.. | |
| ,, | 5...Monday ... | |
| ,, | 6...Tuesday ... | |
| ,, | 7...Wednesday | Altrincham Division, *Lancashire and Cheshire Branch*, Northwich. |
| ,, | 8...Thursday... | South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch, Cardiff. |
| ,, | 9...Friday ... | Hampstead Division, *Metropolitan Counties Branch.* |
| ,, | 10...Saturday... | |

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